**EARLS COLNE CRICKET CLUB – SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

Earls Colne Cricket Club (The Club) is committed to ensuring all Children (\*) participating in cricket have a safe and positive experience.

(The word “Children” should be taken to mean all persons under the age of 18.)

We will do this primarily by supporting the Child Protection Policy adopted by Earls Colne Recreation Club (ECRC). As a participating club of ECRC, Earls Colne Cricket Club is a signatory of this policy which applies to the operation of ECRC, staff and volunteers. A copy of the ECRC Child Protection Policy is attached to this statement.

In addition, we will meet our commitment by:

* Ensuring individuals working within cricket at, or for, our club provide a safe, positive and fun cricketing experience for children
* Adopting and implementing the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) “Safe Hands – Cricket Policy for Safeguarding Children” and any future versions of this
* Appointing a Club Welfare Officer and ensuring they attend all current and future training modules required by the ECB, so they have the necessary skills to undertake their role effectively
* Ensuring all people who work in cricket at, or for, the club (such as staff, officials, volunteers, team managers, coaches and son) understand the “Safe Hands Policy” applies to them according to their level of contact with children in cricket
* Ensuring all individuals working within cricket at, or for, the club are recruited and appointed in accordance with ECB guidelines and relevant legislation
* Ensuring all individuals working within cricket at, or for, the club are provided with support, through education and training, so they are aware of, and can adhere to, good practice and code of conduct guidelines defined by the ECB, and the club
* Ensuring the name and contact details of the Club Welfare Officer are available:
  + As the first point of contact for parents, children and volunteers/staff within the club
  + As a local source of procedural advice for the club, its committee and members
  + As the main point of contact within the club for the ECRC Manager
  + As the main point of contact within the club for the ECB County Welfare Officer and the ECB Child Protection Team, and
* Ensuring correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing child safeguarding concerns. Such procedures should be in accordance with pre-defined procedures as set down by the ECB inter alia
* Providing everyone connected with the club (including parents, children and volunteers) with opportunity to voice any concerns they have (about possible suspected child abuse, and/or about poor practice) to the Club Welfare Officer
* Ensuring all suspicious concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately in line with ECRC policy guidelines. The ECRC Manager should be informed about any such concerns and allegations and any communication with external agencies (other than the ECB) should be via the ECRC Manager
* Ensuring access to confidential information relating to child safeguarding matters is restricted to the Club Welfare Officer in the first instance and the ECRC Manager if necessary, as specified within ECB child safeguarding procedures